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WASHINGTON (UPI) -- THE PENTAGON IS CRACKING DOWN HARD ON LEAKS OF CLASSIFIED DATA OFFICIALS SAY HAVE DAMAGED U.S. RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, REDUCED THE U.S. LEAD IN THE ARMS RACE AND CAUSED THE LOSS OF INTELLIGENCE SOURCES.

DEPUTY DEFENSE SECRETARY FRANK CARLUCCI, IN A TOUGH, NO-NONSENSE MEMORANDUM TO THE HIGHEST ECHELONS OF THE PENTAGON DATED APRIL 15, SAID THOSE WHO LEAK CLASSIFIED INFORMATION WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION CAN BE FOUND GUILTY OF VIOLATING ESPIONAGE LAWS.

THE MEMORANDUM WAS OBTAINED BY UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL.

"IT WILL BE THE POLICY OF THIS DEPARTMENT TO DEAL FIRMLY AND PROMPTLY WITH ALL EMPLOYEES WHO BETRAY THIS RESPONSIBILITY," THE CARLUCCI MEMO SAID.

"I WANT TO EMPHASIZE TO ALL THE EMPLOYEES OF THIS DEPARTMENT THAT UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURES OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION -- WHETHER INTENTIONAL OR INADVERTENT -- WILL NOT BE TOLERATED," CARLUCCI WROTE.

SIMILAR MEMOS APPEAR AT THE OUTSET OF EVERY NEW ADMINISTRATION. BUT CARLUCCI, BY INVOKING THE ESPIONAGE LAWS, WAS UNCOMMONLY HARSH.

THE FOUR-PARAGRAPH MEMORANDUM RESULTED FROM ANGER OVER DISCLOSURES BY PENTAGON OFFICIALS OF DETAILS SURROUNDING SOVIET AND WARSAW PACT MANEUVERS IN AND AROUND POLAND APRIL 13 AND 14, DEFENSE OFFICIALS SAID.

SOME OF THE DETAILS, THE OFFICIALS SAID, COMPROMISED U.S. INTELLIGENCE SOURCES BECAUSE THE SOVIETS WERE ABLE TO PINPOINT THE ORIGIN OF THE INFORMATION.

DOZENS OF MILITARY PERSONNEL DAILY ARE PRIVY TO PHOTOCOPIED INTELLIGENCE DATA COVERED WITH A RED SHEET STAMPED "TOP SECRET" AND THOSE WITH BLUE COVERS MARKED "CONFIDENTIAL." WHEN NOT IN USE, THEY ARE STORED IN FILE CABINETS SEALED WITH COMBINATION LOCKS.

"PAST DISCLOSURES HAVE DAMAGED OUR RELATIONS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS, REDUCED OUR LEAD IN WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY AND RESULTED IN THE LOSS OF IRREPLACEABLE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES," THE MEMORANDUM SAID. IT DID NOT ELABORATE.